



Press Release – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011

## Eleanor Farjeon Award Winners 2011

The Federation of Children's Book Groups is delighted to announce that it has won the 2011 Eleanor Farjeon Award. The Eleanor Farjeon Award is coordinated by the Children's Book Circle and is given to individuals or organisations that have been deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to the world of children's books. The award is a great honour for the Federation, its members and its National Executive.

At a ceremony in London the Children's Book Circle and Anne Harvey, from the Eleanor Farjeon estate, presented the £2000 gift to Chair Adam Lancaster. In his acceptance speech Adam spend time passionately talking about the work that everyone in the charity is involved in. This ranged from groups running numerous events in their localities with a number of partners to the national executive working as an umbrella providing opportunities for a whole host of events to take place.

Adam, who is also founder of National Non-Fiction Day, explained the Federation's past and thanked all the people over the years that played a part in creating hundreds of thousands of readers. 'Everyone involved in the Federation is a special person. They are the ones on the front line, working with tens of thousands of young people each year, doing those things that politicians and suited board men talk about. To be awarded this honour is to recognise all those people who over the years have played a part in igniting that spark and fanning those flames of reading. Books change lives. The Federation changes lives.' Adam Lancaster.

For more information please contact Adam Lancaster Chair FCBG  
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Adam Lancaster (Chair) accepting the Eleanor Farjeon Award from Anne Harvey (Eleanor Farjeon Estate)



Federation of  
Children's Book Groups

**About the Federation of Children's Book Groups:**

[www.fcbg.org.uk](http://www.fcbg.org.uk)

[www.redhousechildrensbookaward.co.uk](http://www.redhousechildrensbookaward.co.uk)

[www.nnfd.org](http://www.nnfd.org)

[www.illustr8or.org.uk](http://www.illustr8or.org.uk)

Established for over 40 years, the Federation is an umbrella, grass roots, voluntary organisation for local Children's Book Groups around the U.K. Working with over ten thousand young people each year the groups organise book-related activities for children in their localities, often with their local schools and libraries, bringing authors and illustrators to meetings and storytelling sessions. We produce a regular Newsletter and specialist booklists as well as organising National Share-a-Story Month, National Non-Fiction Day an Annual Conference, a specialist visual literacy project and we own and coordinate the Red House Children's Book Award.

**About the Eleanor Farjeon Award:**

The CBC is proud to host the annual Eleanor Farjeon Award, which recognises an outstanding contribution to the world of children's books by an individual or organisation. Librarians, authors, publishers, teachers, reviewers and others who have given exceptional service to our industry are eligible for nomination. CBC members nominate suitable candidates and then vote for the winner.

**About The Children's Book Circle:**

The Children's Book Circle is a lively discussion forum for people involved in children's books. Regular meetings provide the perfect environment in which to exchange ideas with others who have a professional interest in children's books.

Founded in 1962 as an informal association of children's book editors, the CBC has expanded to embrace anyone with a professional interest in children's books - publishers, librarians, authors, illustrators, teachers, booksellers and agents.

The CBC meets regularly at a variety of venues. Speaker meetings are addressed by invited guests, and topics focus on current and controversial issues relevant to the world of children's books. Audience participation is encouraged. There is always discussion and the chance for everyone to voice their opinion. Recent meetings have included a panel on marketing to children with Annie Eaton from Random House, Mark Bradley from EA Games, and Matt Bochenski from Toxic Magazine, and a discussion on the current state of the children's book business with Kate Wilson of Scholastic.